



November 4, 2004

Marcia Mayeda
Director

Administrative Office
5898 Cherry Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90805
(562) 728-4882
Fax (562) 422-3408
<http://animalcontrol.co.la.ca.us>



Shelter locations

11258 S. Garfield Ave.
Downey, CA 90242
(562) 940-6898

216 W. Victoria St.
Gardena, CA 90248
(310) 523-9566

4275 No. Elton
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 962-3577

5210 W. Avenue I
Lancaster, CA 93536
(661) 940-4191

31044 N. Charlie Cyn. Rd.
Castaic, CA 91384
(661) 257-3191

29525 Agoura Rd.
Agoura, CA 91301
(818) 991-0071

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Room 383, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

Our agency has become aware of the existence of a dog that tested positive for rabies in Los Angeles County. We believe this is the first such confirmed case involving canine rabies in more than 30 years in the county.

The case involved a three-month-old Dachshund kept at 707 West Rosecrans Avenue, Los Angeles 90247. It is our understanding that the dog had been brought into the United States by its owner from Mexico. The Veterinary Public Health section of the Department of Health Services has assumed jurisdiction in this matter.

When the dog became ill, its owner took it to Holly Animal Hospital in Hawthorne on Nov. 1, where the veterinarian that examined the animal noted that it was having seizures and showing signs of an acute neurological disorder. The dog was humanely euthanized and the veterinarian had tests conducted on its body. Those tests came back positive for rabies.

It is our understanding that two other dogs kept in the household as well as other family members were exposed to the dog in question. The dog was also enrolled in a training class at a PetCo in Torrance and Veterinary Public Health is attempting to track down the other animals the dog in question may have come in contact with.

Veterinary Public Health has alerted our agency and we have notified our shelters to be alert for any signs of animals showing distemper-like symptoms, as these could be the symptoms of rabies. We are also taking the added precaution of conducting extra patrols in our service area immediately adjacent to the Los Angeles City neighborhood where the dog was kept to pick up any stray animals that may have come into contact with the rabies-infected animal. Additionally, we are sending our license canvassing officers into the County area near where the dog was kept to alert residents of the need to get rabies shots for their pets and we are stepping up our rabies inoculation services at the Carson Animal Shelter.

Any questions about this matter should be directed to Dr. Karen Enhert of Veterinary Public Health at (323) 730-3728.

Sincerely,

Marcia Mayeda
Director

c: David Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
Violet Varona-Lukes, Executive Officer
Dr. Karen Enhert, DHS-VPH